Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 05737 100821Z
ACTION PPT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CA-01 PER-01 SY-05 CPR-02
SSO-00 A-01 /024 W
----------070868 100833Z /20
O 081016Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6036

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WARSAW 5737

FOR CA/PPT, EUR/EX, EUR/EE, PER/FCA/EUR, DG/EM, AND SY/FO

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: CPAS AFSP APER PDIP (COVIELLO, JOSEPH LOUIS)
SUBJ: DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS FOR WARSAW PERSONNEL WITHOUT
DIPLOMATIC TITLES

REF: (A STATE 168326, (B) 77 WARSAW 4770, (C) WARSAW 5045
(D) 76 WARSAW 8574

1. FSR-6 JOSEPH COVIELLO APPLIED FOR A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT IN
WASHINGTON ON 6/20/77 AND WAS ISSUED A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT WHICH
WAS SENT TO THE POLISH EMBASSY FOR VISAING. (HE HAD PREVIOUSLY
HELD DIPLOMATCJ PASSPORTS IN CONNECTION WITH OTHER FOREIGN SERVICE
ASSIGNMENTS.)

2. THE POLISH MFA HAS CONSISTENTLY REFUSED TO
ACCEPT DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE NOTIFICATION
AND REGISTRATION OF EMBASSY EMPLOYEES WHO DO NOT ENJOY DIPLOMA-
TIC RANK, AS IS THE CASE WITH MR. COVIELLO IN HIS CURRENT
ASSIGNEMNT. WE THEREFORE RECOMMENDED TO THE DEPARTMENT (REF B)
THAT MR. COVIELLO AND HIS FAMILY BE ISSUED OFFICIAL PASSPORTS IN
ORDER TO AVOID UNNECESSARY INCONVENIENCE AND DELAYS FOLLOWING THEIR
ARRIVAL IN WARSAW. PPT DID ISSUE THE COVIELLOS
OFFICIAL PASSPORTS, COLLECTING THEIR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT IN
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PAGE 02 WARSAW 05737 100821Z

EXCHANGE.

3. AFTER ARRIVING IN WARSAW, MR. COVIELLO DISCUSSED WITH THE DCM
THE POSSIBLITIY OF GRANTING A DIPLOMATIC TITLE, WHICH WOULD QUAL-
IFY HIM -- IN POLISH EYES -- TO HOLD A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT. AT
THAT TIME, EMBASSY THINKING WAS THAT MR. SOVIELLO'S POSITION DID
NOT QUALIFY FOR DIPLOMATIC TITLE BASED IN A STRICT INPTERPRETATION

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

OF 3 FAM 611.3

4. IN WASHINGTON LAST MONTH, THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNSELOR RAISED INFORMALLY WITH PPT DEPUTY DIRECTOR LAMB THE POSSIBILITY OF ISSUING DIPLOAMTIC PASSPORTS -- IN ADDITION TO OFFICIAL PASSPORTS - TO THOSE JUNIOR OFFICERS AND SENIOR STAFF PERSONNEL WHOSE RANK WOULD ENTITLE THEM TO HOLD DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS WERE IT NOT FOR THE PECULIAR POLISH REFUSAL TO RECGONIZE NON-DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL WITH DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS. THE PPT RESPONSE WAS THAT MORE THAN ONE PASSPORT COULD BE ISSUED TO AN EMPLOYEE OR DEPENDENT ONLY IN CASES OF TRUE NEED, E.G. ARAB-ISRAELI BORDER CROSSING.

5. THIS SPRING MR. COVIELLO AGAIN RAISED -- THIS TIME WITH THE AMBASSADOR -- HIS CONCERN OVER BEING DENIED A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT WHILE MORE JUNIOR PERSONNEL (SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS WITH OFFICIAL NEED FOR TITLES AS SDESCRIBED IN REF D.)
ENJOY BOTH DIPLOMATIC TITLES AND DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS. IN ORDER TO HELP DEFUSE A SERIOUS MORALE PROBLEM, THE EMBASSY PROPOSED TO THE DEPARTMENT (REF. C) THAT THE REPLACEMENTS FOR THE MORE JUNIOR C&R PERSONNEL NOT BE ISSUED DIPLOMATIC TITLES AND PASSPORTS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR OFFICIAL JOB-RELATED NEED, THE PRESENTATION OF WHICH IN REF D REMAINS ACCURATE.

6. THE QUESTION OF DIPLOMATIC TITLE AND PASSPORTS IS A COMPLICATED ONE WHICH PROBABLY CANNOT BE COMPLETELY SOLVED EITHER BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

CURRING BACK OR BY SLIGHTLY INCREASING THE NUMBER OF STAFF EMPLOYEES WITH DIPLOMATIC TITLES. THIS ENTIRE MATTER IS CURRENTLY UNDER INTENSE CONSIDERATION AT THE EMBASSY, AND WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF A SEPARATE COMMUNICATION.
SCHAUFELE

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